

CITY OF NEWTON

IN BOARD OF ALDERMEN

TRAFFIC COUNCIL REPORT

THURSDAY, APRIL 18, 2002

Present: Lou Mercuri (Chairman) Captain Sbordone (Police) Roy LaMotte (Traffic Engineer) Ald. Samuelson (Aldermanic Representative) Rosalie Myers (Clerk)

Other Aldermen Present: Ald. Bryson, Ald. Merrill

#38-02      ALD. GERST transmitting request of Patricia Green for traffic control/calming devices on JEFFERSON STREET, Newton Corner. (Ward 1) (01-24-02)

ACTION:      NAN 4-0

NOTE:      Patricia Green of 39 Jefferson Street was present and expressed her concern regarding speeding cars on Jefferson Street. Ald. Samuelson noted that since the street was one-way, speeding should not be a problem. Ms. Green said the police had been very good about patrolling the area but after a few days the problem resurfaces. Mr. LaMotte said speed counters had been out to this location. Mr. LaMotte reported that the time period covered in the study, there were no violators. The Committee voted NAN on this item. Mr. LaMotte did suggest warning signs and a marked crosswalk in this area.

#83-02      ALD. BRYSON requesting no parking within 40' of driveway #541 GROVE STREET, (Newton Lower Falls Community Center/Hamilton Grove Housing) (Ward 4) (03-21-02)

ACTION:      APPROVED AS AMENDED (40 ft. each side)

NOTE:      Diane Burkenshaw of 541 Grove Street displayed photographs that were reviewed by the Committee showing the present parking problems. The parking area is a common entryway to the community center and when there are activities at the center, cars park all along Grove Street on either side of the driveway. Grove Street is narrow and when residents of Hamilton Grove Housing exit their driveway, there is no visibility to make either a left or a right hand turn safely.

Ald. Bryson spoke in support of this petition. She explained what was requested was 40 feet on each side of the driveway in order to enter and exit safely.

Mr. LaMotte had visited the site and agreed that this is a very busy area with very poor visibility. His recommendation would be for 80 feet (40 feet on each side) which would allow the appropriate visibility. The Committee agreed and voted 4-0 in favor.

#82-02      ANTHONY ANTONELLIS, 111 Dalby Street, Newtonville requesting handicapped parking space opposite 111 Dalby Street. (Ward 2)

ACTION:      APPROVED 4-0

NOTE:      Mr. Antonellis was present and explained he had a handicapped placard and was in need of a handicapped parking space. Ald. Merrill spoke in favor of this petition. Traffic Engineer LaMotte said he had no problem with recommending approval and the Committee supported the motion and voted in favor 4-0.

#84-02      MARY MCCARTHY ET AL, 99 Florence Street, (The Farm) Chestnut Hill, requesting that parking be restricted along the north side only of FLORENCE STREET. (Ward 8) (03-21-02)

ACTION:      HELD 4-0

NOTE:      Jane and Louis Barber of Florence Street were the only residents present. Ms. Barber said, among other things, that there were many traffic problems at the beginning and the exit of the shipping and supplies area at the Atrium Mall. Ms. Barber told the Committee that, in her opinion, due to parking in front of Winston Flowers, there is no place for two sets of cars to move comfortably. There is also a problem with trucks that line up to go into the delivery area of the Atrium. Ms. Barber's suggestion for safety would be no parking in the area where large trucks are stopping for delivery to the Atrium as well as no parking in front of Winston's Flowers (Winston Florists currently has four spaces). Ald. Samuelson suggested that perhaps deliveries to the Atrium could be staggered. Mr. LaMotte said the request on the petition and the discussion the two residents were describing tonight were totally different issues. Mr. LaMotte asked that the item be held until there could be some discussion with the Atrium management regarding their delivery process. He went on to say that Winston Flowers should not be penalized because there is a problem with an adjacent facility. Mr. LaMotte also said he would have conversation with Winston Flowers as they were not represented at this meeting. The Committee voted to hold the item pending receipt of additional data.

Respectfully submitted,

Rosalie Myers, Clerk

